525 Rec'd PCT/PTO 31 OCT 2000

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U S DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER: 20251-000100US

U S APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 C F R. 1.5): 09/ 674444

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE	PRIORITY DATE CLIAMED
PCT/GB99/01339	29 April 1999	1 May 1998

TITLE OF INVENTION: JITTER MEASUREMENT

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US: WANDEL & GOLTERMANN et al.

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).
4. ☒ A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
   a. ☒ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
   b. ☐ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
   c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States receiving Office (RO/US)
6. ☐ A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
7. ☒ Amendments as to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))
   a. ☐ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
   b. ☐ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
   c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
   d. ☒ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)) - **UNEXECUTED**
10. ☐ A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5))

Items 11. to 16. below, concern document(s) or information included:

11. ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98.
12. ☒ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☒ A FIRST preliminary amendment.
    ☐ A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ A substitute specification.
15. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
16. ☒ Other items or information: A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report

526 Rec'd PCT/PTO 31OCT2000

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.5)	INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER
09/674444	PCT/GB97/02771	20251-000100US

17. ☒ The following fees are submitted:

BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 C.F.R. 1.492(a)(1)-(5)):		CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY	
Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO	840.00		
International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 C.F.R. 1.482)	670.00		
No international preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 C.F.R. 1.482) but international search fee paid to USPTO (37 C.F.R. 1.445(a)(2)	760.00		
Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 C.F.R. 1.482) nor international search fee (37 C.F.R. 1.445(a)(2) paid to USPTO	970.00		
International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 C.F.R. 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)	96.00		
ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =		$ 840.00	
Surcharge of $130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than ☐ 20 ☐ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).		$	

CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
Total Claims	15-20=		x $18.00	$	
Independent Claims	3-3=		x $78.00	$	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ $260.00	$	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				$	
Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Verified Small Entity Statement must also be filed (Note 37 C.F.R. 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).				$	
SUBTOTAL =				$ 840.00	
Processing fee of $130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than ☐ 20 ☐ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 C.F.R. 1.492(f)). +				$	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				$ 840.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 C.F.R. 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 C.F.R. 3.28, 3.31). $40.00 per property +				$	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				$	
				Amount to be refunded:	$
				charged	$ 840.00

a. ☐ A check in the amount of $_____ to cover the above fees is enclosed.

b. ☒ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 20-1430 in the amount of **$ 840.00** to cover the above fees.

c. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1430. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO.
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SIGNATURE

Darin J. Gibby
NAME

38,464
REGISTRATION NUMBER

DE 7026201 v1

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Attorney Docket No. 20251-000100US

IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

WANDEL & GOLTERMANN et al.

International No.: PCT/GB99/01339

International Filing Date: 29 April 1999

Priority Filing Date: 1 May 1998

FOR: JITTER MEASUREMENT

BOX PCT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

"Express Mail" Mailing Label No. EF337223551US
Date of Deposit: October 31, 2000

I hereby certify that the following attached items:

1. Transmittal Letter and 1 copy
2. Copy of International application as published by WIPO (WO 99/57842), including International Search Report
3. Copies of PCT Request (PCT/RO/101)
4. Copies of Forms PCT/RO/105 and PCT/IB 301, 304 and 308
5. Copy of PCT Demand for International Preliminary Examination
6. Copy of International Preliminary Examination Report

are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Box PCT, Washington, D.C. 20231

Connie Larson
Type or print name of person depositing

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE AS RECEIVING OFFICE FOR THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

In re Application of)
)
WANDEL & GOLTERMANN et al.)
)
Serial No.: PCT/GB99/01339) **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**
)
Filed: 29 April 1999)
)
For: JITTER MEASUREMENT)
)
File No.: 20251-000100US)

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Box PCT
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

(All claims are set forth for convenient reference.)

1. (Amended) A method of measuring jitter in a digital signal comprising:

forming an offset reference clock signal **[(101, 201, 103),]** being offset by a predetermined frequency amount from said digital signal;

sampling **[(110)]** said digital signal at sampling times determined by said offset reference clock signal, such that, in the absence of jitter and said offset by a predetermined frequency, there are a predetermined number of sampling times in each bit of said digital signal;

detecting **[(113, 114)]** occasions when the number of sampling times in any bit of said digital signal is different from said predetermined number;

counting **[(119)]** said occasions over a predetermined time, and

deriving **[(121)]** at least one measure of jitter from said counting of said occasions.

2. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said offset reference clock signal is formed by extracting **[(101)]** a clock signal from said digital signal and offsetting **[(102)]** said clock signal by said predetermined frequency.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 2, further including smoothing **[(103)]** said offset reference clock signal.

4. (Amended) A method according to **[any one of said preceding claims]** claim 1, wherein said sampling times are determined by an integer multiple of the frequency of said offset reference clock signal.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein said sampling the times are at clock bit intervals being plus and minus one of said integer multiple.

6. (Amended) A method according to **[any one of the preceding claims]** claim 1, wherein the predetermined item is inversely proportional to the product of the bit rate of the digital signal and the predetermined frequency amount.

7. (Amended) A method according to **[any one of the preceding claims]** claim 1, wherein one of said at least one measure of jitter is obtained by counting up one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times greater than the predetermined number within a bit, counting down one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times less than the

predetermined number within a bit and determining the difference between the maximum count value and the minimum count value.

8. (Amended) A method according to **[any one of the preceding claims]** claim 4, wherein one of said at least one measure of jitter is obtained by counting up one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times greater than the predetermined number within a bit, counting down one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times less than the predetermined number within a bit and determining the time difference between the first occasion of the maximum count value and the last occasion of the minimum count value.

9. (Amended) A method according to claim 8 **[as dependent on claim 4]**, wherein the time difference is divided by said integer multiple and said predetermined time.

10. (Amended) An apparatus for measuring jitter in a digital signal comprising:

means **[(101, 102 and 103)]** for forming an offset reference clock signal, which clock signal is offset by a predetermined frequency amount from said digital signal;

means **[(110)]** for sampling said digital signal at sampling times determined by said offset reference clock signal, such that, in the absence of jitter and said offset by a predetermined frequency, there are a predetermined number of sampling items in each bit of said digital signal;

means **[(112, 114)]** for detecting occasions when the number of sampling times in any bit of said digital signal is different from said predetermined number; and

means **[(119)]** for counting said occasions over a predetermined time, and

means **[(121)]** for deriving at least one measure of jitter from said means for counting of said occasions.

11. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said means for forming said offset reference clock signal comprises means **[(102)]** for extracting a clock signal from said digital signal and means **[(102)]** for offsetting the clock signal by said predetermined frequency.

12. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said means for forming said offset reference clock signal includes means **[(103)]** for smoothing said offset reference clock signal.

13. (Amended) An apparatus according to **[any one of claims 10 to 12]** claim 10, wherein said means **[(121)]** for deriving one of said at least one measure of jitter comprises means for counting up one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times greater than said predetermined number within a bit and for counting down one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times less than the predetermined number within a bit and means for determining the difference between the maximum count value and the minimum count value.

14. (Amended) An apparatus according to any one of claims 10 to 12, wherein said means **[(101)]** for deriving one of said at least one measure of jitter comprises means for counting up one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times greater than the predetermined number within a bit and for counting down one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times less than the predetermined number within a bit and means for determining the time difference between the first occasions of the maximum count value and the last occasion of the minimum count value.

15. An apparatus for measuring jitter in a digital signal comprising:

an offset unit **[(101, 102, 103)]** arranged to form an offset reference clock signal, being offset by a predetermined frequency amount from said digital signal;

a sampler **[(110)]** arranged to sample said digital signal at sampling times determined by said offset reference clock signal such that, in the absence of jitter and said offset by a predetermined frequency, there are a predetermined number of sampling times in each bit of said digital signal;

at least one detector **[(113, 114)]** arranged to detect occasions when the number of sampling items in any bit of said digital signal is different from said predetermined number;

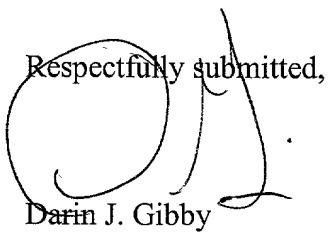
a counter **[(119)]** arranged to count said occasions over a predetermined time, and

an analyzer **[(121)]** arranged to derive at least one measure of jitter from said counting of said occasions.

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 6-15 have been amended to conform with U.S. practice. Examination of the claims, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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JITTER MEASUREMENT

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to the measurement of jitter in a digital signal. In theory, the spacing of the transitions between levels of a digital signal have a completely uniform spacing. In practice, particularly during transmission, there may be minute variations in the actual time of the transition, relative to the theoretical transition time defined by an absolute reference clock. These variations are referred to as jitter, and may be considered to be a spurious phase modulation of the signal.

SUMMARY OF THE PRIOR ART

Known systems for measuring jitter involve a very stable phase-locked loop which compares the pulse train containing jitter with an internally generated, jitter-free reference clock. The phase-locked loop has a generator for generating the reference clock, the output of which is fed to the input of a phase demodulator which also receives a digital signal containing jitter. The phase demodulator converts the signal to pulse duration modulation, which is output to a low pass filter, the output of which gives the jitter measurement, and also is fed back to the input of the reference clock generator, to form the loop. The low pass filter has cut off

frequency of 5-10% of the bit rate. But since the digital signal being investigated may contain long sequences of digital zeros, a pattern/clock converter may be used to convert the digital signal into a continuous pulse train with the same jitter as the original signal, which pulse train then forms the input to the phase demodulator. Analysis of the output may involve peak value rectification before the results are displayed, and/or analysis with a spectrum analyser.

As mentioned above, such a jitter measurement system involves a low pass filter, and this has a significant influence on the greatest measurable jitter frequency component. The known systems also involve many analog circuits, which are more expensive than digital components.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Therefore, the present invention seeks to provide a system for measuring jitter in a digital signal, in which a clock signal is extracted from the original digital signal, offset by a predetermined frequency, and smoothed to eliminate jitter therefrom. This gives an offset reference clock signal which is then used to sample the original input signal. Preferably, that offset clock signal is frequency multiplied by an integer factor before it is used for timing the sampling.

The effect of the offset of the reference clock

signal is that the sampling point is not fixed relative to the transition point over the bits of the input signal, but instead moves relative thereto. The sampling points are then arranged such that, in the absence of the offset and in the absence of jitter, there is a predetermined number of sampling points (normally only one, but this is not essential) in each successive bit. The present invention then proposes that the occasions when a bit of said digital signal contains other than the predetermined number of sampling points are detected. The occasions when the number of sampling points differs from the predetermined number occur because of the offset of the clock, but also due to jitter when the sampling point approaches the theoretical (absolute) transition point of the bits, being the transition point that would occur in the absence of jitter. The count of the number of occasions a bit has more sampling points than the predetermined number for a suitable measuring duration then gives a measure of the jitter.

Note that a bit may have more samplings than the predetermined number and a later bit may have fewer samplings than the predetermined number and both are occasions to be counted. For simplicity, the number of samplings per bit in the absence of offset and jitter is preferably one. Then, a count is made of the occasions there are either two sampling times within a bit on no

sampling times within a bit. It would also be possible to have more than one sampling time within a bit in the absence of offset and jitter, e.g. 2. Then the number of occasions of 3 or 1 sampling times in a bit would be counted.

The measurement period is preferably inversely proportional to the product of the bit rate and the difference between the original frequency and the offset frequency. Where the offset frequency is multiplied by an integer, the measurement period may be divided by that integer.

It is possible for the sampling to be at fixed intervals. However, where the offset clock signal is frequency multiplied by an integer factor, it is preferable that the sampling points are not regularly spaced by that integer factor, but are spaced by factors greater than or less than the integer factor. For example, if the integer is 4, then sampling may be at 3 and 5 intervals of the multiplied offset clock signal.

Thus a count is made of the occasions when there are more or less samplings, within the same bit than the predetermined number and the results of that count may be stored in a table whose size corresponds to the number of samples. The value stored in the table may increment and decrement depending whether the count is above or below the predetermined number. The value stored in the count

thus increments and decrements depending on the jitter, with the increments and decrements occurring as the sampling point is close to the absolute transition point of the bits. It is then possible to use the difference between the maximum value counted and the minimum value counted, possibly with 1 subtracted, to be multiplied by the bit period to derived a coarse jitter value. Moreover, if the number of samples between the first occurrence of the maximum value and the last of the occurrence of the minimum value is determined, divided by the total number of samples, a fine jitter value may be determined. The jitter amplitude is then given by the sums of these two values.

It should be noted that where the offset clock is multiplied by an integer value, both of these values may need to be divided by that integer to obtain a jitter value which corresponds to the peak-to-peak value of the deviation of the phase function of the measured signal relative to time. It can also be noted that such a measurement is independent of bit rate, and independent of the shape of the binary signals being measured.

Thus, an aspect of the present invention may provide a system for measuring jitter in a digital signal having means for deriving a first clock signal from the digital signal, the first clock signal being offset by a predetermined frequency from the digital signal and being

smoothed, means for sampling the digital signal using the first clock signal, such that, in the absence of jitter and said offset by a predetermined frequency, there are a predetermined number of sampling times in each bit of said digital signal, means for detecting occasions when the number of sampling times in any bit is different from the predetermined number, means for counting such occasions, and means for deriving a measurement of jitter from that count.

Another aspect of the invention relates to a method of measuring jitter using such a system.

The present invention, because it involves digital sampling and counting, can be embodied in a device which makes less use of analog circuits than known jitter measurement systems, which makes embodiments of the invention easier to produce.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Embodiments of the present invention will now be described in detail, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 shows a schematic block diagram of a jitter measurement device being an embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a flow-chart of the sampling sequence in the embodiment of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a block diagram of components of the

jitter measurement device of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 shows in more detail a part (RXBERT) of the diagram of Fig. 4;

Fig. 5 shows in more detail another part (RXJITTER) of the block diagram of Fig. 3;

Fig. 6 shows in more detail yet another part (TXBERT) of the block diagram of Fig. 3 and

Fig. 7 shows in more detail yet another part (TXJITTER) of the block diagram of Fig. 3.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Fig.1 shows schematically a jitter measurement device according to an embodiment of the present invention. In Fig.1, a digital pulse train signal which may contain jitter is fed to an input 100, and passed to a pattern clock converter 101. The converter 101 performs a similar function to that in the known systems, in that it converts the digital pulse train received at input 100, which may contain gaps in its pulse-train, into a continuous pulse-train with the same jitter as the original signal. That continuing pulse-train is then passed from the converter 101 to a clock frequency offset circuit 102. The offset circuit 102 determines the frequency of the pulse-train received from the converter 101 using known clock recovery techniques, but then is offset by a frequency which is a small proportion of the frequency of the pulses received.

The offset clock pulses thus generated are passed to a phase locked loop (PLL) 103 with a long time constant. The loop has a phase comparator, a low pass filter and a voltage controlled oscillator, with the low pass filter having a very low cut off frequency it thus separates the relatively weak jitter component from the stronger modulation which is symmetric about the working frequency of the phase comparator. Therefore a slow- acting control voltage is produced which is used to regulate the oscillator to produce an average, constant phase. This generates a jitter-free pulse-train which can thus be used for a reference clock.

In this embodiment, the pulse-train thus generated is frequency multiplied by an integral factor. In the subsequent description, it will be assumed that integer factor is 4, but the embodiment is not limited to this. Thus, the output of the PLL 103 is a reference clock with a frequency multiplied by 4, and offset from the frequency of the digital signal received at the input 100 by a small frequency.

That reference clock is passed to a data sampler 104, and is used to sample the pulse-train received at the input 100. As can be seen from Fig.1, the pulse-train input at input 100 is passed to the data sampler 104, as well as to the convertor 101. The action of that data sampler 104 will now be described with reference to

the flow chart of Fig.2.

As can be seen in Fig.2 a sampling step 110 is carried out, in which the pulse-train received at input 100 is sampled at a time determined by the reference clock signal from PLL 103. The logical level of the sample is then compared with that of the previous sample. There are four possibilities. In two of them, shown at steps 111 and 112, the sample is different from the previous sample, being either a change from logical zero to logical one (step 111) or a change from logical one to logical zero (step 112). In the other two alternatives, the sample is the same as the previous sample. In step 113, both are at logical one, and in step 114 both are at logical zero. From step 111, a three clock delay is imposed at step 115 and, assuming that the sampling operation has not yet been completed (step 116), processing returns to sampling step 110 for another sample. A similar procedure occurs at step 112, except that a five clock delay is imposed at step 117.

If there was no offsetting of the reference clock from the PLL 103, and the pulse-train received at input 100 had no jitter, then the effects of steps 111, 112, 115 and 117 would be for the sampling to switch across the logical transition of the pulse-train. If the sample was at logical level one, but had previously been a logical level zero, corresponding to step 111, the three

clock delay would move the sampling point back to logical level zero. Similarly, if the sampling was at logical level zero and the previous sampling at logical level one, the five clock delay 117 would move the sampling point back to logical level one. Thus, without offset and without jitter, the processing would pass alternately via steps 111 and 112.

However, the offset circuit 102 output pulses to the PLL 103 which have an offset frequency relative to the pulse train received at input 100. Thus, and still assuming that there is no jitter in the pulse-train received at input 100, a sampling point which is initially spaced from the transition between logical levels would slowly move towards that transition, and would eventually reach it. As it crossed the transition, two sampling points would occur within the same pulse, and thus the step 113 would be triggered. From step 113, a three clock delay again occurs at step 118, but also a signal is passed to a counter step 119 which increments a counter (not shown in Fig. 2) by one. From counter step 119, processing again passes to the sampling step 110 via step 116. After the sampling point had crossed the transition, it would again return to the options envisaged by steps 111 and 112, the counter step 119 would not again be triggered.

Thus, in the absence of jitter and over a sampling

period equal to the inverse of four times the clock offset times the reference clock, counter step 119 would be triggered only once. It can be observed from Fig. 2 that if the movement of the sampling point was within a logical zero, indicated by step 114, a five clock delaying step 120 would be triggered, and the counter step 119 activated to decrement the counter. Thus, in this case, the counter would count down once.

Now consider the effect of jitter in the pulse-train received by sample 100. In the subsequent discussion, the position of the transitions in the pulse-train in the absence of jitter will be called the absolute transition point, to distinguish from the actual transition point. These two transition points differ due to jitter. Whilst the sampling point is remote from the absolute transition point, the processing envisaged by Fig.2 will pass alternately via steps 111 and 112, assuming that the magnitude of jitter is less than the pulse width of the output of the PLL 103. However, as the sampling point approaches the absolute transition point, due to the offset of the reference clock, there is a possibility that a sampling point will occur within the same pulse as the previous sampling point, due to jitter. At that time, either step 113 or step 114 is triggered, and the counter step 119 either increments or decrements the counter.

Thus, over a part of the total sampling period, the counter step 119 may be triggered several times, depending on the magnitude of the jitter. It is this variation in the counter triggered by counting step 119 which enables jitter to be measured, as will now be described. Due to the jitter, the values stored by the counter triggered by counter step 119 will count up and down as steps 113 and 114 are triggered, if it is possible that the steps 113 and 114 may not be triggered alternately so that the counter step 119 may be triggered by the increment of step 118 more than once, before the counter step 119 is triggered by decrement step 120. It is also possible, of course, for the decrements at step 120 to be triggered more than once. As a result, over a measurement cycle, the counter may count up to a maximum value, and down to a minimum value. This is then used to determine the jitter as will now be described.

Referring again to Fig.1, the counter step 119 triggers an accumulator 105, which detects the counts and passes them to a store 106 to be stored in a table of a size corresponding to the measurement period. At the end of measurement period, triggered by end step 121, the difference between the maximum counts stored and the minimum counts stored, is determined. If there were no jitter, the minimum count would be zero (or minus one) and the maximum count would be one (or zero). If there

is jitter, however, either the maximum count or the minimum count may differ from that. Therefore, 1 is subtraced from the difference between the maximum count and the minimum count and multiplied by a quarter of the bit period of the input pulse-train received at input 100. This one quarter multiple occurs because of the multiplication of the reference clock. This measurement gives a value known as "coarse jitter". Secondly, the count table accumulator 105 is scanned to find the first occurrence at the maximum value count, and the last occurrence at the minimum value count. The difference in position is determined, divided by four and divided by the table size, which is equalled with a number of times the sampler 110 will be triggered during a measurement cycle. This gives a value known as the fine jitter. The sum of the course and fine jitter measurements are the peak-to-peak amplitude of the phase jitter of the input signals.

It can be noted that the term "jitter amplitude" designates the peak-to-peak value of the deviation of the phase function relative to time. The jitter amplitude is measured relative to the length of a clock period, so that it is independent of the shape of the binary signal of the pulse-train. Also, it is independent of bit rate, because it is relative to the clock period, making it a normalised parameter. It is thus possible to use this

value to compare jitter amplitudes.

Moreover, and as shown in Fig.1, the output of the table of store 106 may be passed to additional filter 107, or a discrete Fourier transform carried out on the count values stored. This enables the frequency content of the phase jitter of the input pulse-train received at input 100 to be determined.

In the embodiment described above, the PLL 103 multiplies the offset clock frequency generated by offset circuit 102 by 4. Other factors are useful, but it should be noted that this factor then determines the delays in steps 115, 117, 118 and 120 in Fig.2, and also the period of time of the measurement before end step 121 is reached. If, for example, a multiplier of 8 was used then steps 115 and 118 may have a seven clock delay, and steps 117 and 120 may have a nine clock delay. Moreover, the measurement period is then equal to the inverse of eight times the bit rate times the clock offset. Finally, when the fine jitter is measured, the subtraction of the table position of the first maximum value count from the table position of the last minimum count would then be divided by eight.

Fig. 3 is the top level functional block diagram for the entire jitter measurement device. It contains five main sections of circuitry, RX bit error rate testing (RX BERT) 10, TX bit error rate testing (TX BERT)

11, RX jitter 12, TX jitter 13 and V40 interfacing circuitry 14. The configuration can generate transmit jitter and also measure the incoming receive jitter while carrying out a bit error rate test at the same time. The V40 circuitry 14 controls operation of the configuration via V40 interface circuitry.

In the device of Fig. 3, the signals considered are shown in Table 1.

Table 1

Signal Name	Description
AD(0:7)	This signal is the V40's databus and the lower 8 bits of its address bus multiplexed together. Data travels backwards and forwards along this bus between the configuration and the V40.
AI(8:15)	This is the top 8 bits of the V40's address bus. It is an input to the configuration and indicates which address the V40 is accessing.

ASTB	This is the address/signal from the V40. It is high when the V40 is presenting its address on its external bus.
BEEPER	This signal oscillates at 2 megacycles per second and is divided in the smaller xilinx to form the beep signal.
CLKIN	This signal comes from the oscillator on the PAX A board and oscillates at 12.288 megahertz.
CLKOUT	This signal is derived from signal CLKIN and oscillates at twice the frequency of CLKIN ie at 24.576 megahertz.
COMP	This is the comparison output to the phase lock loop. It is used in the generation of the received jitter clock SCLK.
COUNT	This signal indicates when a received jitter phase change is to be counted. It is high for phase changes of both plus a quarter of an interval and minus a quarter of an interval. The direction of the COUNT is controlled by the signal UP.
CRCERR	This signal pulses whenever received CRC error happens.
D(0:7)	This is the internal databus to the configuration. It carries all the data from the V40 to and from the configuration.

	It also carries the data which is stored in the V40's memory during DMA accesses.
DLTCLK	This signal oscillates at the same period as the transmit clock. It is fed to the Dallas chip to provide the transmit clock. It is also used to ensure the signals XTPOS and XTNEG have the right mark space ratio.
DMAACK	This signal comes from the V40 and indicates that a DMA cycle is occurring.
DMARQ	This signal is generated by the configuration and is used to indicate to the V40 that a DMA request is pending.
DOJIT	This signal goes high whenever a twelfth of a unit interval jitter hit is to be inserted into the transmit jitter. The transmit jitter is comprised of a twelfth of a unit interval hits.
E1CLK	This signal goes high once per received bit

	in the RX jitter circuitry. Pulses on the E1CLK are counted and after every 8 counts a jitter result is DMA'd into the V40's memory.
FASERR	This signal pulses whenever the receiver detects a FAS error.
HLDRQ	This signal is passed to the V40 and is held permanently low in this configuration.
INJERR	The V40 controls the signal and can pulse it in order to inject a bit error into the transmit Bert pattern.
IOEN	This signal is used whenever the V40 carries out a IO operation.
IORD	This signal goes low whenever the V40 is carrying out a IO read instruction.
IOWR	This signal goes low whenever the V40 carries out an IO rate instruction.
JCLKI	This signal is sourced from the jitter attenuator chip. It oscillates at the same frequency as the receive clock less $1/(3 \times 2^{16})$ (approximately 1.27 parts per million). This signal is quadruple in frequency to form signal SCLK which is used to sample the received jitter.
JITAMP	This signal goes high whenever the V40 is writing to the jitter amplitude register on the transmit jitter circuitry.

JMODI	The transmit jitter waveform. It indicates whether the jitter waveform is varying in phase or otherwise.
JQ(0:2)	These signals are high whenever the V40 is writing to the transmit jitter frequency registers.
MNADDR	This signal is high wherever the received jitter circuitry has taken a jitter sample which is less than or equal to the previous minimum jitter sample. It causes the configuration to latch the DMA address of the next DMA cycle. At the end of the received jitter measurement the V40 reads this address to determine the received jitter.
MRD	This signal goes low whenever the V40 executes a memory read instruction.
MWRD	This signal goes low whenever the V40 executes a memory write instruction.
MWRI	This signal goes low whenever the V40 executes a memory write instruction.
MXADDR	This signal goes high whenever the received jitter measurements is higher than any of the previous received jitter measurements. This signal is used to latch an address which is later used by the V40 to determine

	the received jitter.
OFFCLK	This signal is the received clock offset by $-1/(3 \times 2^{18})$ (approximately -1.27 parts per million). This signal has quarter of a unit interval hits on it and is dejittered using the jitter attenuator chip.
RSERI	This is similar to RSER.
RSTS	This signal from the Dallas chip goes high during time slot 16 of the E1 frame and is decoded to indicate phase or CRC errors.
RXCKEN	This is the received clock enable signal for the RX Bert circuitry. It goes high for one CLKOUT period each received bit.
RXER	This signal is the data signal to the WG gate array.
RFER	This signal from the Dallas chip is de-coded to indicate FAS or CRC errors.
RFSYNC	This signal is used to synchronise the received time slot selection circuitry and also de-coded to indicate phase or CRC errors.
RSER	This is the E1 data from the Dallas chip. It is passed to the WG gate ray to measure bit errors.
RSTS	This signal from the Dallas chip goes high during time slot 16 of the E1 frame and is

RECONEN	This signal is used to reconfigure the xilinx when the jitter test is complete.
RCHCLK	This signal from the Dallas chip is the channel clock for the E1 receive frame. It is de-coded to indicate FAS or CRC errors.
RDLCLK	This is the receive clock which is passed to the Dallas chip. It is similar to signal RXCKEN but is extended by one clock period to meet the Dallas chip specifications.
SCLK	This is the master clock used by the RX jitter circuitry. It oscillates at normally 8.192 megahertz, minus $1/(3 \times 2^{18})$ (approximately 1.27 parts per million). It is used to sample in incoming received data to detect jitter.
SIGIN	This is the signal input to the 4046 phase up loop. It is used to quadruple the signal JCLKI to form signal SCLK.
SMP(0:7)	This signal is the raw sample jitter from the received jitter circuitry.
STOPPED	This signal is controlled by the V40 and is driven high when the received jitter measurement is stopped.
PDLCLK	This signal is the 2 megabit transmit clock generated from the transmit BERT circuitry.

	transmit jitter circuitry to insert a 12th of a unit interval jitter hit into the transmit clock. This signal prevents jitter hits from being inserted while the transmit bit is marking. This makes sure that the transmitted bits meet the pulse mask.
TMO	This signal originates in the Dallas chip and indicates the start of the transmit multiframe. It is used to synchronise the transmit time slot select circuitry.
TNEG	This signal originates in the Dallas chip and together with signal TPOS forms the transmit E1 stream.
TPOS	This signal originates in the Dallas chip and is used to generate the E1 stream.
TWO	This signal goes high when ever the received jitter is too much for the received jitter circuitry to cope with. The V40 can read whether this line as ever been high. If this is the case then the jitter measurement is discarded.
TXBERT	This signal goes high during time slots where bit error rate test signals are being transmitted.
TXBRTS	This signal goes high whenever a transmitted PRBS bit is to be sent.

TXCKEN	This signal goes high for one CLKOUT period each transmit bit.
TXCLK	This is the signal pass to the counter timer chip to indicate the transmit bit rate.
TSPDAT	This is the transmitted PRBS signal which is injected into the transmit data stream.
UP	This signal indicates the polarity of a receive jitter phase change and is used in conjunction with signal COUNT to accumulate the received jitter.
V24RX	This signal is the received V24 data which is passed to the V40.
V24RXD	This signal is the same as signal V24RX.
V24TX	This is the V24 data from the V40 transmitted out of the V24 port.
V24TXD	This signal is the same as V24TX.
VCO	This signal comes from the 4046 phase lock loop. It is used in the process whereby signal JCLKI is quadruple in frequency to form signal SCLK.
WGCLK	This signal is used to clock data into the WG gate array during bit error tests. The WG gate array then measures bit errors.
WGDATA	This is the data passed to the WG gate array from the receive BERT circuitry. It

	is used to perform bit error rate tests on.
WGERR	This signal originates in the WG gate array and indicates when a received bit error has occurred. It is passed to a counter timer chip where bit errors are measured.
XRNEG	This is the re-timed received E1 data which is passed to the Dallas chip.
XRNEGI	This is the raw E1 data from the B board.
XRBLS	This is the re-timed received E1 data which is passed to the Dallas chip.
XRPOSI	This signal is the raw received E1 data from the B board.
XSM	This signal is XRNEGI re-timed to the clock CLKOUT. The received clock is recovered from this signal.
XSP	This is the signal XRPOSI re-timed to the clock CLKOUT. Along with signal XSM this signal is used to generate the received clock.
XSPU	This is the unbuffered received E1 data which is passed to the jitter detection circuitry. Jitter is detected on this signal.
XTNEG	This signal is passed to the B board and is used to generate the transmit E1 string.
XTPOS	This signal is passed to the B board and is

	used to generate the transmit E1 string.

The various components of the system of Fig. 3 will now be considered in more detail. Starting with the RX bit error rate testing circuitry (RX BERT) 10, the detailed structure of this circuitry is shown in more detail in Fig. 4. As can be seen, there are several circuit elements. The first is CLOCK GEN component 20 is used to double the frequency of the signal CLKIN. This forms a higher frequency clock CLKOUT which has a frequency of about $25^{1}/_{2}$ meahertz. The logic for this clock doubling is placed in a CLB map at position AA. This ensures that the logic is very close on the LCA to the global clock buffer GCLK. The circuit works by forming a signal CLKBUF which is identical to the signal CLKIN except delayed by a small amount of time. The clock CLKOUT is passed to a GETCLOCK component 21.

This GETCLOCK component 21 recovers the clock from the received E1 data to be used in the TX Bert circuitry. The raw incoming E1 data is sampled by the system clock CLKOUT and then the positive and negative streams are gated together to form signal RESET. This signal resets a four bit divided by twelve counter. This counter is then used to generate received blocks during times when there are no marks on the received data. CLB map in this

drawing is used to try and squash as much logic as possible into the system. Thus, the GETCLOCK component 21 corresponds to the pattern clock converter 101 in Fig. 1.

The signals shown in Fig. 4 are then listed in Table 2.

Table 2

Signal Name	Description
CLKOUT	This is the 24½ megahertz system clock.
CNT0 through to CNT3	These four signals form a divide by twelve counter. It is divide by twelve as the received bit rate is a twelfth of the system clock. This counter is reset by the signal RESET. This occurs whenever a mark is received on the incoming data.

	During strings of 0's where there is no timing information on the received E1 data then this counter is used to 1 generate the signal RXCKEN which is the received clock enable.
RDLCLK	This signal is generated for the Dallas chip. The signal RXCKEN is only one CLKOUT clock period wide. This is not a wide enough pulse to clock the Dallas chip so the extra signal RDLCLK is generated which is twice as long to clock the Dallas chip.
RESET	This signal pulse is high whenever a mark is received on the incoming E1 data and is used to synchronise the received counter.

RNEG	This signal is fed to the Dallas chip and is the received negative E1 data.
RNEG0	This is the same signal as RNEG.
RPOS	This is the received E1 positive pulses which are fed to the Dallas chip.
RPOS0	This is the same signal as RPOS.
RXCKEN	This signal is generated in his block and is the received clock enable. This signal goes high for one CLKOUT period every single received bit.
RXP	This signal is used in combination with signal RXCKEN to generate the signal RDLCLK which is used to clock the Dallas chip.

The component 22 is used to generate the enables for the RX BERT circuitry. A patched signal USERTA goes high whenever the received data is to be passed to the WG gate array for PRBS testing. Two other CLB maps are used simply to compress the logic into the smallest space as possible. The block consists of an 8 bit

counter which is formed by signals CNT0 through to CNT7. This counter is reset to 0 by the signal RFSYNC from a Dallas chip 23. This counter is then de-coded to form the time slot select for the received PRBS data. Note that the high ordered 5 bits of the counter from signal CNT3 through to CNT7 are reset by the signal RFSYD. Again this technique is used to try and conserve space. The signal USERTS which is patched is then gated with the received clock enable to form the clock to the WG gate array which is signal WGCLK.

As mentioned above, the TSSEL component 22 receives the signal RFSYNC from the Dallas ship 23. That signal is then passed to a G703ERRS component 24. This component 24 is used to generate the CRC and FAS error signals. These signals are generated from gated signals from the Dallas chip 23. The signal CRC error goes low whenever the signals RF since and RFER are high simultaneously, likewise the signal FASERR goes low whenever the signals RCHCLK and RFER are high while the signal RSTS is low.

Next the RX jitter circuit 12 will be considered in more detail. Its internal structure is shown in Fig. 5. Again, it has several circuit elements. The first is a CLOCKOFF component 30. The component 30 offsets the incoming received E1 clock by minus $1/(3 \times 2^{18})$ (approximately 1.27 parts per million) before passing

this clock to a Dallas jitter attenuator 31. It has a function which is used to divide the receive clock by 65,536. It also contains test functions and SLPYREG which are used to offset the clock by adding single periods of the clock CLKOUT every 65,536 received bits. Thus, the CLOCKOFF component 30 corresponds to the offset circuit 102 in Fig. 1.

The CLIPYCNT function uses a four bit counter which performs a divide by twelve operation. Bits zero and one divide by three, and bits two and three divide by four, given a total of divide by twelve. The counter clock enabled by signal SLIPEN which goes high for one CLKOUT clock period every 65,536 received bits. The output of the counter is used to determine where in the twelve bit shift register in function SLIPYREG the received clock is inserted. In this way twelfth of a unit interval phase changes are introduced into the received clock in order to offset it by minus 1.27 parts per million. The SLIPYREG function uses a twelve bit shift register. It is used to inject slowly increasing twelfth of a unit interval jitter phase hits into received clock. Every 65,536 the point at which the received clock is injected into the shift register is moved closer to the beginning of the shift register. The output of the shift register ie the offset clock is at the last twelfth tap. When finally the RX clock has

been injected into the first bit of the shift register and it is time to access another twelfth of a unit interval phase shift. This received clock is discarded and then the received clock is then injected into the end of the shift register. In this way the clock is offset. The MISSCNT function uses a linear feedback shift register counter. It consists of a sixteen bit shift register, of which four taps are fed back to the input. Other gates are used to detect when the shift register counter has reached its terminal count. This forms signal HIGHNR which is the output .

Fig. 5 shows that the output JCLKI of the Dallas jitter attenuator 31 passes to a PLLSTUFF component 32. This PLLSTUFF component 32 is used to multiply the signal JCLKI by four to form the jitter sample block SCLK. It does this by doubling the frequency using the phase lock loop and then doubling the frequency from the phase up loop by two using an edge detection method. The Dallas jitter attenuator jitter 31 acts a phase lock loop which acts to remove the jitter component from the OFFCLK signal derived from the CLKOFF component 30. This function of the Dallas jitter attenuator 31, together with the PLLSTUFF component 32 thus form the PLL 103 of Fig. 1 which, as previously described, produces a jitter-free pulse-train, and then multiplies that pulse-train by the integer factor of 4.

A JITDET component 33 samples the incoming E1 data and from this measures the received jitter. It also recovers an E1 receive clock from the incoming E1 data stream. Thus, the JITDET component 33 forms the data sampler 104 in Fig. 1. It receives the offset and multiplied clock signal from PLLSTUFF component 32, and also the incoming signal which is being sampled for jitter.

A JITCOUNT component 34 generates the 8 bit jitter sample data. It consists of an 8 bit up/down counter which is enabled by the signal COUNT and the direct of the count is controlled by signal UP. The counter is set to value 80 HEX while the signal STOPPED is high. Notice that signal CNT7 is inverted before emerging from this component 34. Thus the JITCOUNT component 34 forms the accumulator 105.

The output from this JICOUNT component 34 is signal SMP(0:7). That output SMP(0:7) passes to a JITOUT component 35. This component 35 is used to transfer measured jitter into the V40's memory. This memory forms the sampler 106 of Fig. 1. It is also used to detect the amplitude of the received jitter. It does this by storing the addresses of the first time that a maximum valued jitter sample was stored and also the address of where the last minimum value jitter sample was stored. The difference between these addresses

ratio to the size of the whole DMA buffer gives an indication of the jitter amplitude. The current value of the sample jitter is stored in a shift register, along with the maximum value recorded up until now and the minimum value recorded up until now. These are compared in a block called compare which indicates when bigger or smaller samples are received. These signals are processed to generate latches for addresses.

Next the TXBERT circuit 11 will be considered in more detail with reference to Fig. 6. The TXBERT circuit 11 has a TXTSSEL component 40. The component 40 is used to generate the transmit enables for the transmit Bert data. It consists of an 8 bit counter formed by the signals CNT0 through to CNT7. This counter is reset by the signal TMO which indicates the start of the transmit multiframe. The signal TMO comes from the Dallas chip 23. It is latched and gated to form signal TS since which directly resets the counter. The output of this counter is then decoded to form a signal TXBERT. This signal goes high during which data is to be transmitted. In unframed mode this signal is patched permanently high. The signal is patched in the CLBTX time slot select. Note that signal TFSYNC directly resets the high five bits of the eight bit counter whereas the low three bits of the counter are set to the value 001 by this signal. This ensures

everything lines up with the timing of the TMO signal.

The output TXBERTS of the TXTSSEL component 41 passes to a TXPRBS component 41. This component 41 is used to generate the transmit PRBS Bert pattern. It consists of a 15 bit shift register formed by signals TAP0 through to TAP14. Various outputs from this shift register are then gated together and fed back to the input of shift register to generate a PRBS pattern. The CLBTXPRBS select is patched to select which taps are enabled. The CLB map TX polarity select is patched to determine the polarity of the transmitted PRBS data. Signal INJER is controlled by the V40 14. When this signal toggles high during the transmission of Bert data a bit error is injected into the transmitted data stream. This bit error signal is decoded to signal BERR which inverts the output of the PRBS shift register. Note the output of the shift register occurs from the eighth tap signal TAP7 although it could have come from any of the other taps if desired.

The TXJITTER circuit 13 will now be described with reference to Fig. 7. It has a TXCKEN component 50. This component 50 is used to generate the transmit clock. The transmit clock can be jittered under the influence of signals DOJIT and JMOD1. When signal DOJIT is high a twelfth of a unit interval phase hit is introduced into the transmit click if a polarity

depending the state of signal JMOD1. These phase hit insertion happen during the time when the line is not marking except in high jitter situations.

Fig. 7 also shows a TXHDB3 component 42. This component 42 is used to encode the transmit data in a HDB3 format. Note it can be patched so that the transmit data is AMI. The configuration must do this encoding as the Dallas chip 23 can only encode for HDB3 during unframed transmission when the HDB3 coding is needed. For this reason the Dallas transmitter is always used to transmit AMI data. The CLB maps TX line code and TX framing are patched to enable AMI mode. In this mode, no extra violations are inserted into the transmit data.

Fig. 7 also shows a GRADREGO component 51. This component 51 contains the circuitry which is used to set the frequency of the transmitted jitter. It consists of a nineteen bit counter which is formed by signals JCNT(0:19) together with registers which are used to compare against this count value. The output INCAMP indicates when it is time to inject a twelfth of a unit jitter hit into the transmitted jitter waveform. The block EXTRACLK also enables fine tuning of the jitter frequency. The output INCAMP of the component 51 passes to an AMPREG component 52.

The component 51 is used to set the amplitude of

the transmitted jitter. It consists of an eight bit latch which the V40 14 can write to and an eight bit counter which is compared to the contents of this latch to indicate when the required jitter amplitude has been reached.

The INCAMP signal also passes to a JITGEN component 57. This component is used to control the generation of transmit jitter in the TX jitter generation circuitry.

It can be seen from the above discussion of Figs. 3 to 7 that the embodiment of Fig. 1 makes use primarily of digital components. This makes embodiments of the present invention easier and cheaper to produce. In the embodiment of Fig. 1, the PLL circuit 103 needs to be an analog circuit, but the fact that the PLL circuit 103 has a low time constant means that it is easy to produce and is thus inexpensive.

In the above discussion, it is assumed that the pulse-train received at input 100 is a co-directional digital data signal, in which the clock information and data are included together in one signal. The present invention may also be applied to clock signals which are not included with data, clocks still being recovered in the same way as discussed above. Moreover, the present invention may be used to investigate the jitter of an analog signal, by converting that to a digital signal before being input to input 100.

CLAIMS

1. A method of measuring jitter in a digital signal comprising:

forming an offset reference clock signal (101, 102, 103), being offset by a predetermined frequency amount from said digital signal;

sampling (110) said digital signal at sampling times determined by said offset reference clock signal, such that, in the absence of jitter and said offset by a predetermined frequency, there are a predetermined number of sampling times in each bit of said digital signal;

detecting (113, 114) occasions when the number of sampling times in any bit of said digital signal is different from said predetermined number;

counting (119) said occasions over a predetermined time, and

deriving (121) at least one measure of jitter from said counting of said occasions.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said offset reference clock signal is formed by extracting (101) a clock signal from said digital signal and offsetting (102) said clock signal by said predetermined frequency.

3. A method according to claim 2, further including smoothing (103) said offset reference clock signal.

4. A method according to any one of said preceding claims, wherein said sampling times are determined by an integer multiple of the frequency of said offset reference clock signal.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein said sampling the times are at clock bit intervals being plus and minus one of said integer multiple.

6. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the predetermined time is inversely proportional to the product of the bit rate of the digital signal and the predetermined frequency amount.

7. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein one of said at least one measure of jitter is obtained by counting up one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times greater than the predetermined number within a bit, counting down one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times less than the predetermined number within a bit and determining the difference between the maximum count value and the minimum count value.

8. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein one of said at least one measure of

jitter is obtained by counting up one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times greater than the predetermined number within a bit, counting down one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times less than the predetermined number within a bit and determining the time difference between the first occasion of the maximum count value and the last occasion of the minimum count value.

9. A method according to claim 8 as dependent on claim 4, wherein the time difference is divided by said integer multiple and said predetermined time.

10. An apparatus for measuring jitter in a digital signal comprising:

means (101, 102, 103) for forming an offset reference clock signal, which clock signal is offset by a predetermined frequency amount from said digital signal;

means (110) for sampling said digital signal at sampling times determined by said offset reference clock signal, such that, in the absence of jitter and said offset by a predetermined frequency, there are a predetermined number of sampling times in each bit of said digital signal;

means (112, 114) for detecting occasions when the number of sampling times in any bit of said digital

signal is different from said predetermined number; and

means (119) for counting said occasions over a predetermined time, and

means (121) for deriving at least one measure of jitter from said means for counting of said occasions.

11. An apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said means for forming said offset reference clock signal comprises means (102) for extracting a clock signal from said digital signal and means (102) for offsetting the clock signal by said predetermined frequency.

12. An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said means for forming said offset reference clock signal includes means (103) for smoothing said offset reference clock signal.

13. An apparatus according to any one of claims 10 to 12, wherein said means (121) for deriving one of said at least one measure of jitter comprises means for counting up one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times greater than said predetermined number within a bit and for counting down one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times less than the predetermined number within a bit and means for determining the difference between the maximum count

value and the minimum count value.

14. An apparatus according to any one of claims 10 to 12, wherein said means (101) for deriving one of said at least one measure of jitter comprises means for counting up one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times greater than the predetermined number within a bit and for counting down one value for each of said occasions representing sampling times less than the predetermined number within a bit and means for determining the time difference between the first occasion of the maximum count value and the last occasion of the minimum count value.

15. An apparatus for measuring jitter in a digital signal comprising:

an offset unit (101, 102, 103) arranged to form an offset reference clock signal, being offset by a predetermined frequency amount from said digital signal;

a sampler (110) arranged to sample said digital signal at sampling times determined by said offset reference clock signal such that, in the absence of jitter and said offset by a predetermined frequency, there are a predetermined number of sampling times in each bit of said digital signal;

at least one detector (113, 114) arranged to detect

occasions when the number of sampling times in any bit of said digital signal is different from said predetermined number;

a counter (119) arranged to count said occasions over a predetermined time, and

an analyser (121) arranged to derive at least one measure of jitter from said counting of said occasions.

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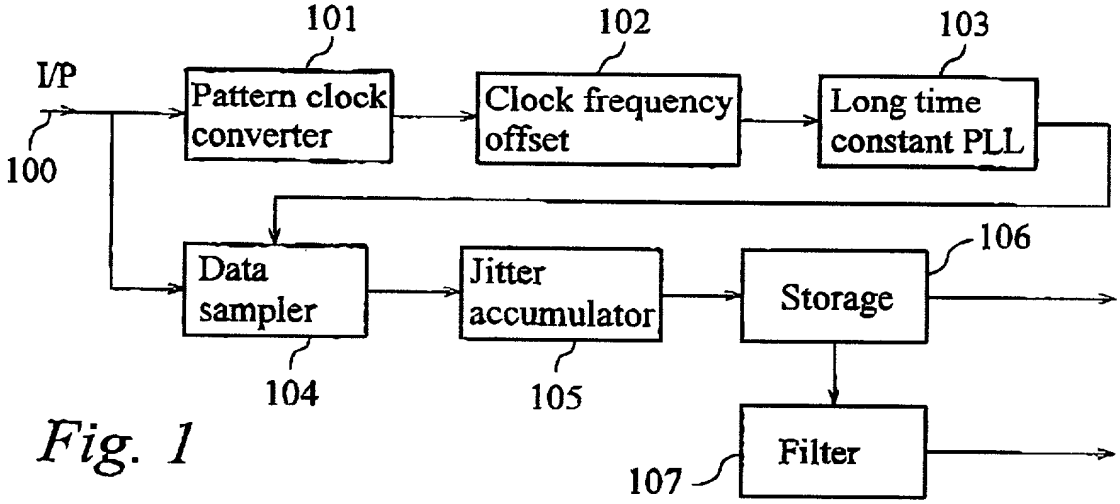
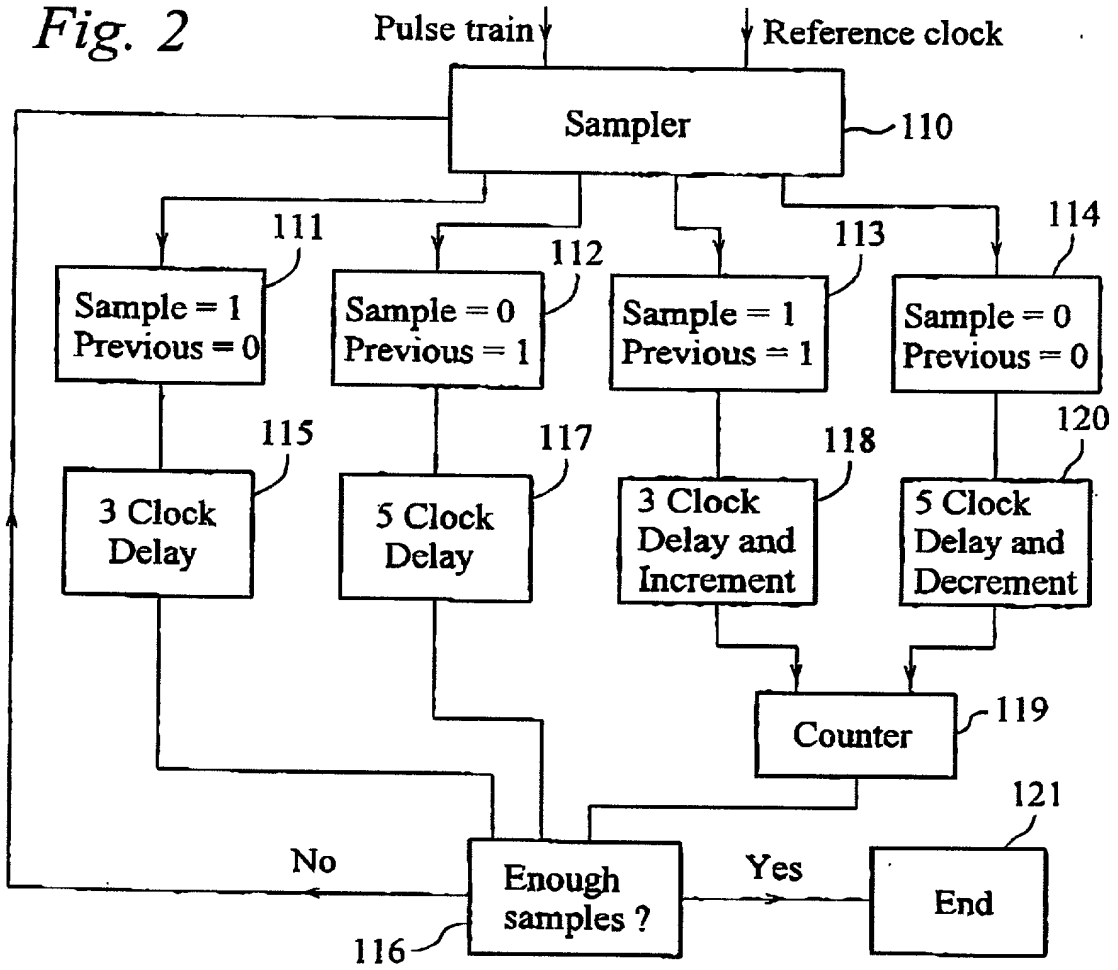
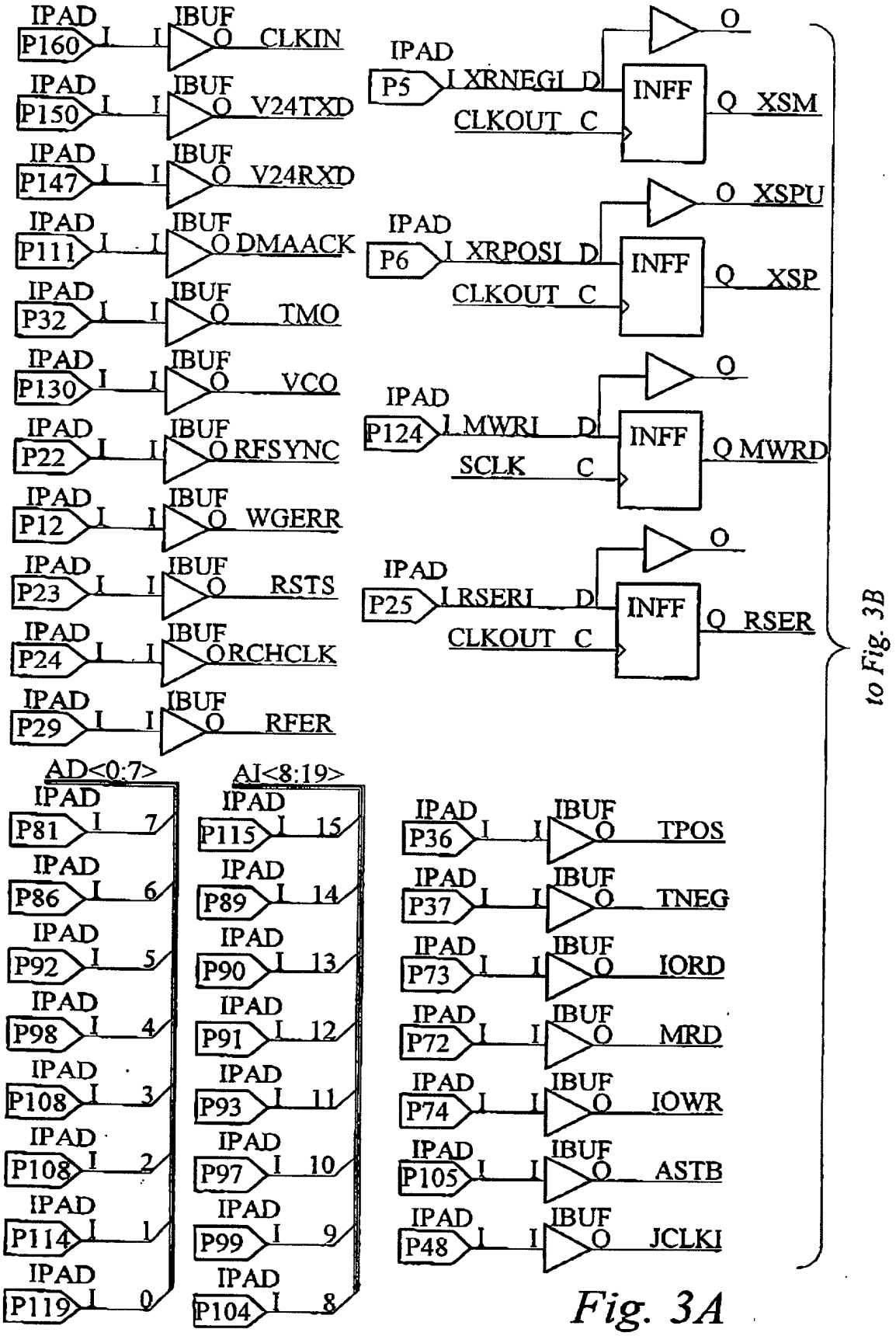


Fig. 1

Fig. 2

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IPAD P147 I IBUF I O V24RXD
IPAD P111 I IBUF I O DMAACK
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IPAD P130 I IBUF I O VCO
IPAD P22 I IBUF I O RFSYNC
IPAD P12 I IBUF I O WGERR
IPAD P23 I IBUF I O RSTS
IPAD P24 I IBUF I O RCHCLK
IPAD P29 I IBUF I O RFER
IPAD P5 I XRNEGI D INFF O Q XSM
CLKOUT C
IPAD P6 I XRPOSI D INFF O Q XSP
CLKOUT C
O XSPU
IPAD P124 I MWRI D INFF O Q MWRD
SCLK C
IPAD P25 I RSERI D INFF O Q RSER
CLKOUT C
to Fig. 3B
AD<0:7>
IPAD P81 I 7
IPAD P86 I 6
IPAD P92 I 5
IPAD P98 I 4
IPAD P108 I 3
IPAD P108 I 2
IPAD P114 I 1
IPAD P119 I 0
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IPAD P89 I 14
IPAD P90 I 13
IPAD P91 I 12
IPAD P93 I 11
IPAD P97 I 10
IPAD P99 I 9
IPAD P104 I 8
IPAD P36 I IBUF I O TPOS
IPAD P37 I IBUF I O TNEG
IPAD P73 I IBUF I O IORD
IPAD P72 I IBUF I O MRD
IPAD P74 I IBUF I O IOWR
IPAD P105 I IBUF I O ASTB
IPAD P48 I IBUF I O JCLKI

Fig. 3A

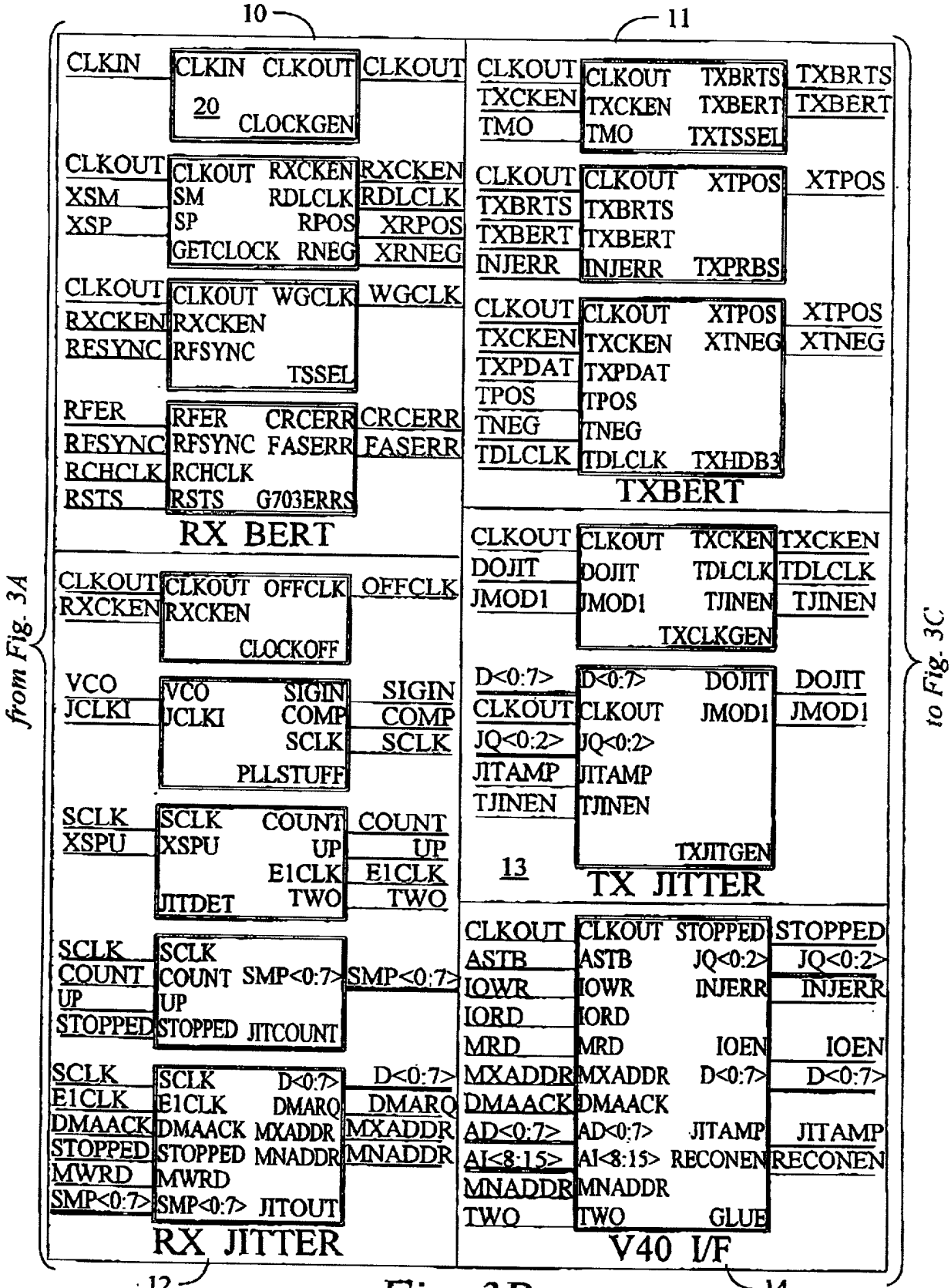
10
11
CLKIN
CLKIN CLKOUT
CLKOUT
20
CLOCKGEN
CLKOUT
XSM
XSP
CLKOUT RXCKEN
SM RDLCLK
SP RPOS
GETCLOCK RNEG
RXCKEN
RDLCLK
XRPOS
XRNEG
CLKOUT
RXCKEN
RESYNC
CLKOUT WGCLK
RXCKEN
RFSYNC
TSSEL
WGCLK
RFER
RESYNC
RCHCLK
RSTS
RFER CRCERR
RFSYNC FASERR
RCHCLK
RSTS G703ERRS
CRCERR
FASERR
RX BERT
CLKOUT
RXCKEN
CLKOUT OFFCLK
RXCKEN
CLOCKOFF
OFFCLK
VCO
JCLKI
VCO SIGIN
JCLKI COMP
SCLK
PLLSTUFF
SIGIN
COMP
SCLK
SCLK
XSPU
SCLK COUNT
XSPU UP
E1CLK
JITDET TWO
COUNT
UP
E1CLK
TWO
SCLK
COUNT
UP
STOPPED
SCLK
COUNT SMP<0:7>
UP
STOPPED JITCOUNT
SMP<0:7>
SCLK
E1CLK
DMAACK
STOPPED
MWRD
SMP<0:7>
SCLK D<0:7>
E1CLK DMARQ
DMAACK MXADDR
STOPPED MNADDR
MWRD
SMP<0:7> JITOUT
D<0:7>
DMARQ
MXADDR
MNADDR
RX JITTER
12
from Fig. 3A
CLKOUT
TXCKEN
TMO
CLKOUT TXBRTS
TXCKEN TXBERT
TMO TXTSSEL
TXBRTS
TXBERT
CLKOUT
TXBRTS
TXBERT
INJERR
CLKOUT XTPOS
TXBRTS
TXBERT
INJERR TXPRBS
XTPOS
CLKOUT
TXCKEN
TXPDAT
TPOS
TNEG
TDLCLK
CLKOUT XTPOS
TXCKEN XTNEG
TXPDAT
TPOS
TNEG
TDLCLK TXHDB3
XTPOS
XTNEG
TXBERT
CLKOUT
DOJIT
JMOD1
CLKOUT TXCKEN
DOJIT TDLCLK
JMOD1 TJINEN
TXCLKGEN
TXCKEN
TDLCLK
TJINEN
D<0:7>
CLKOUT
JQ<0:2>
JITAMP
TJINEN
D<0:7> DOJIT
CLKOUT JMOD1
JQ<0:2>
JITAMP
TJINEN
TXJITGEN
DOJIT
JMOD1
13
TX JITTER
CLKOUT
ASTB
IOWR
IORD
MRD
MXADDR
DMAACK
AD<0:7>
AI<8:15>
MNADDR
TWO
CLKOUT STOPPED
ASTB JQ<0:2>
IOWR INJERR
IORD
MRD IOEN
MXADDR D<0:7>
DMAACK
AD<0:7> JITAMP
AI<8:15> RECONEN
MNADDR
TWO GLUE
STOPPED
JQ<0:2>
INJERR
IOEN
D<0:7>
JITAMP
RECONEN
V40 I/F
14
to Fig. 3C

Fig. 3B

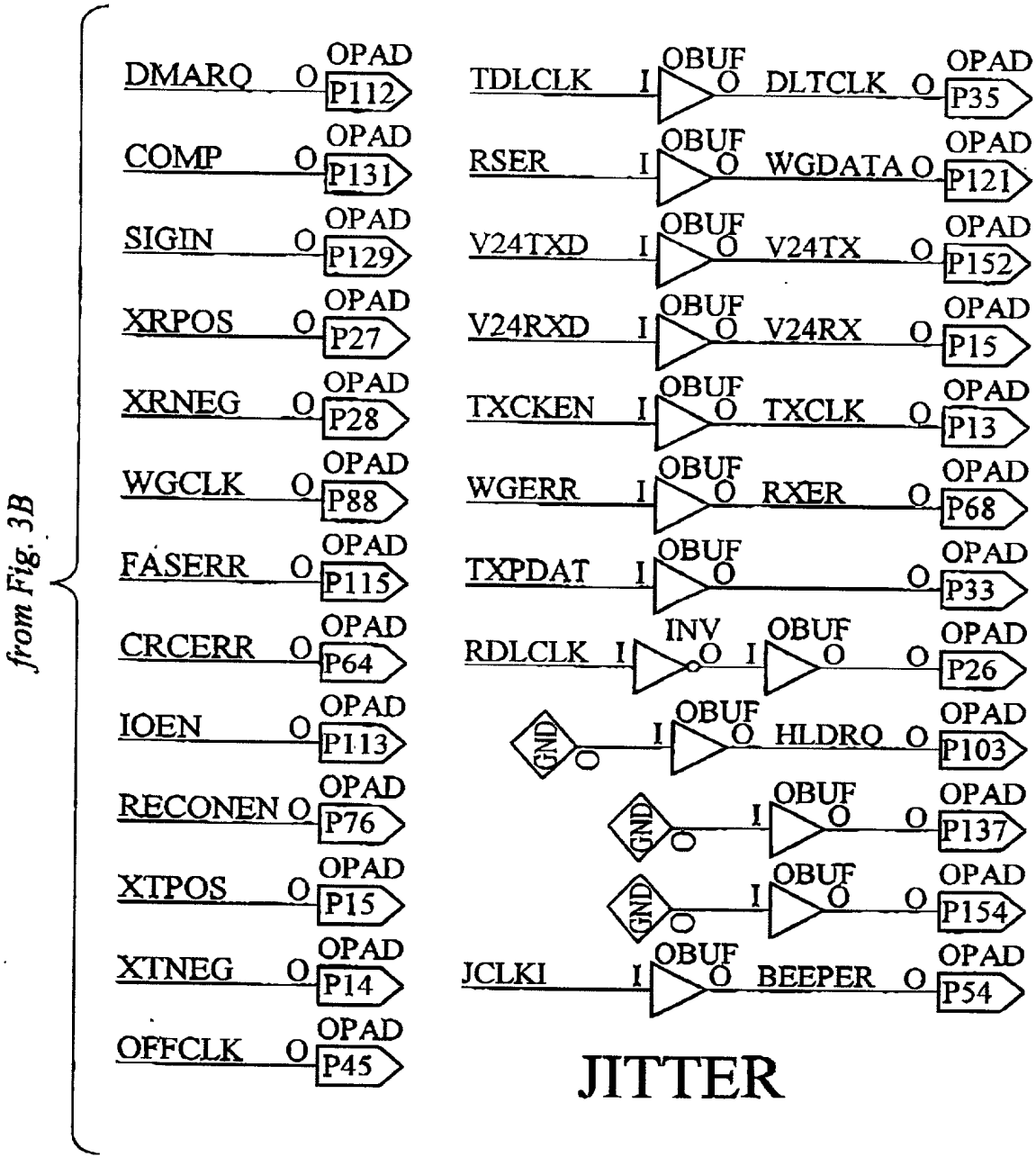
from Fig. 3B
DMARQ O OPAD P112
COMP O OPAD P131
SIGIN O OPAD P129
XRPOS O OPAD P27
XRNEG O OPAD P28
WGCLK O OPAD P88
FASERR O OPAD P115
CRCERR O OPAD P64
IOEN O OPAD P113
RECONEN O OPAD P76
XTPOS O OPAD P15
XTNEG O OPAD P14
OFFCLK O OPAD P45
TDLCLK I OBUF O DLTCLK O OPAD P35
RSER I OBUF O WGDATA O OPAD P121
V24TXD I OBUF O V24TX O OPAD P152
V24RXD I OBUF O V24RX O OPAD P15
TXCKEN I OBUF O TXCLK O OPAD P13
WGERR I OBUF O RXER O OPAD P68
TXPDAT I OBUF O O OPAD P33
RDLCLK I INV O I OBUF O O OPAD P26
GND O I OBUF O HLDRQ O OPAD P103
GND O I OBUF O O OPAD P137
GND O I OBUF O O OPAD P154
JCLKI I OBUF O BEEPER O OPAD P54
JITTER

Fig. 3C

WO 99/57842 09/674444 PCT/GB99/01339

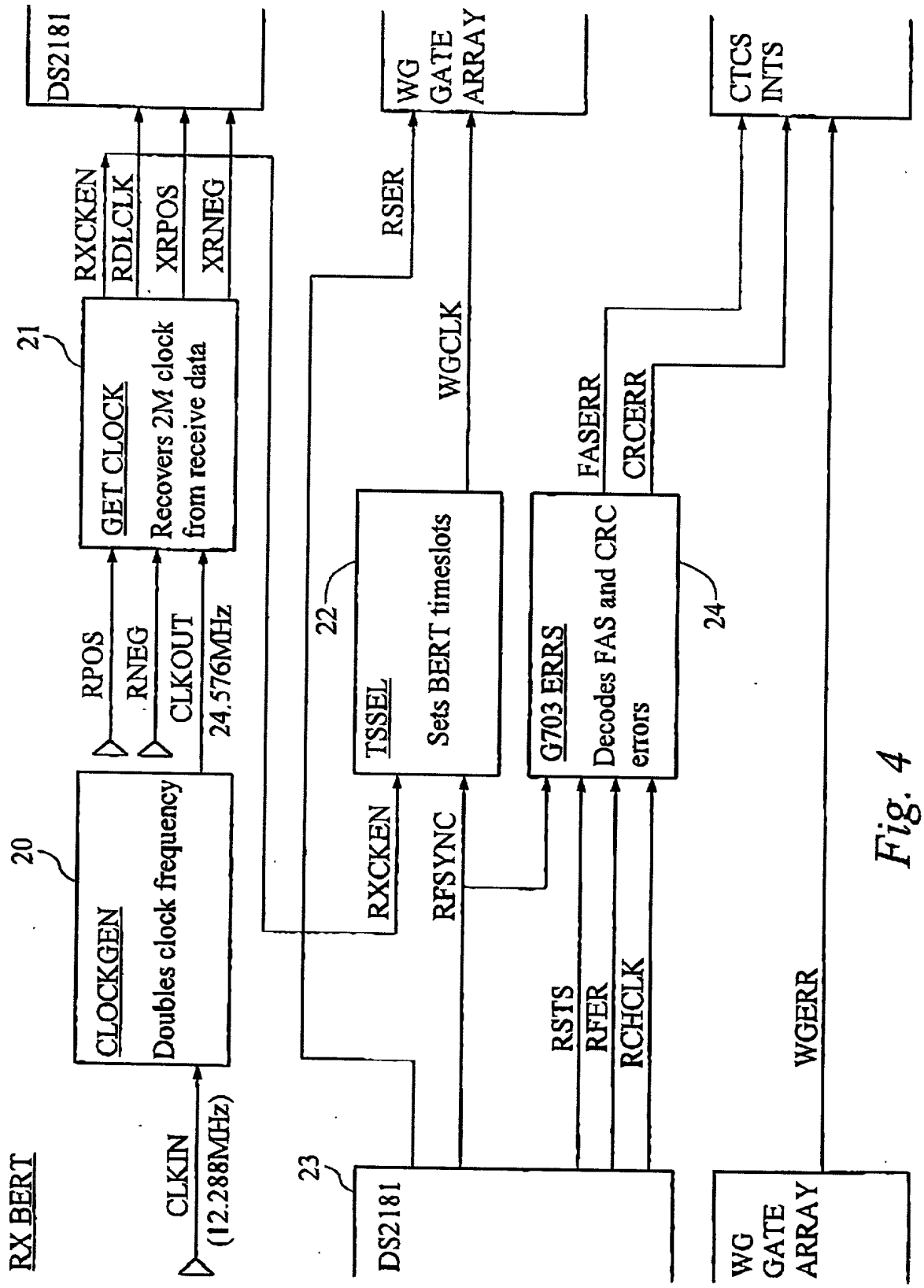

Fig. 4

WO 99/57842 09/674444 PCT/GB99/01339

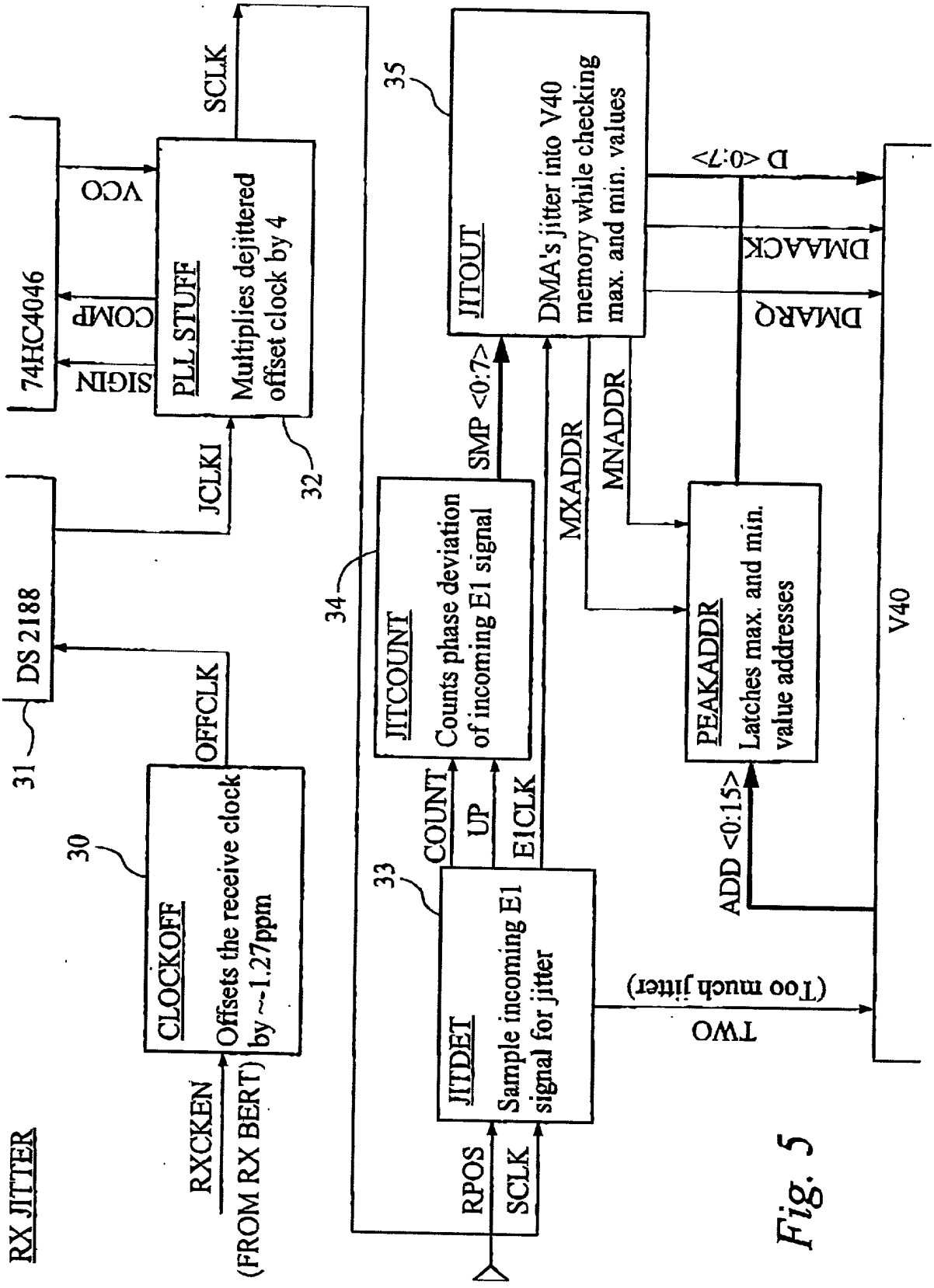

Fig. 5

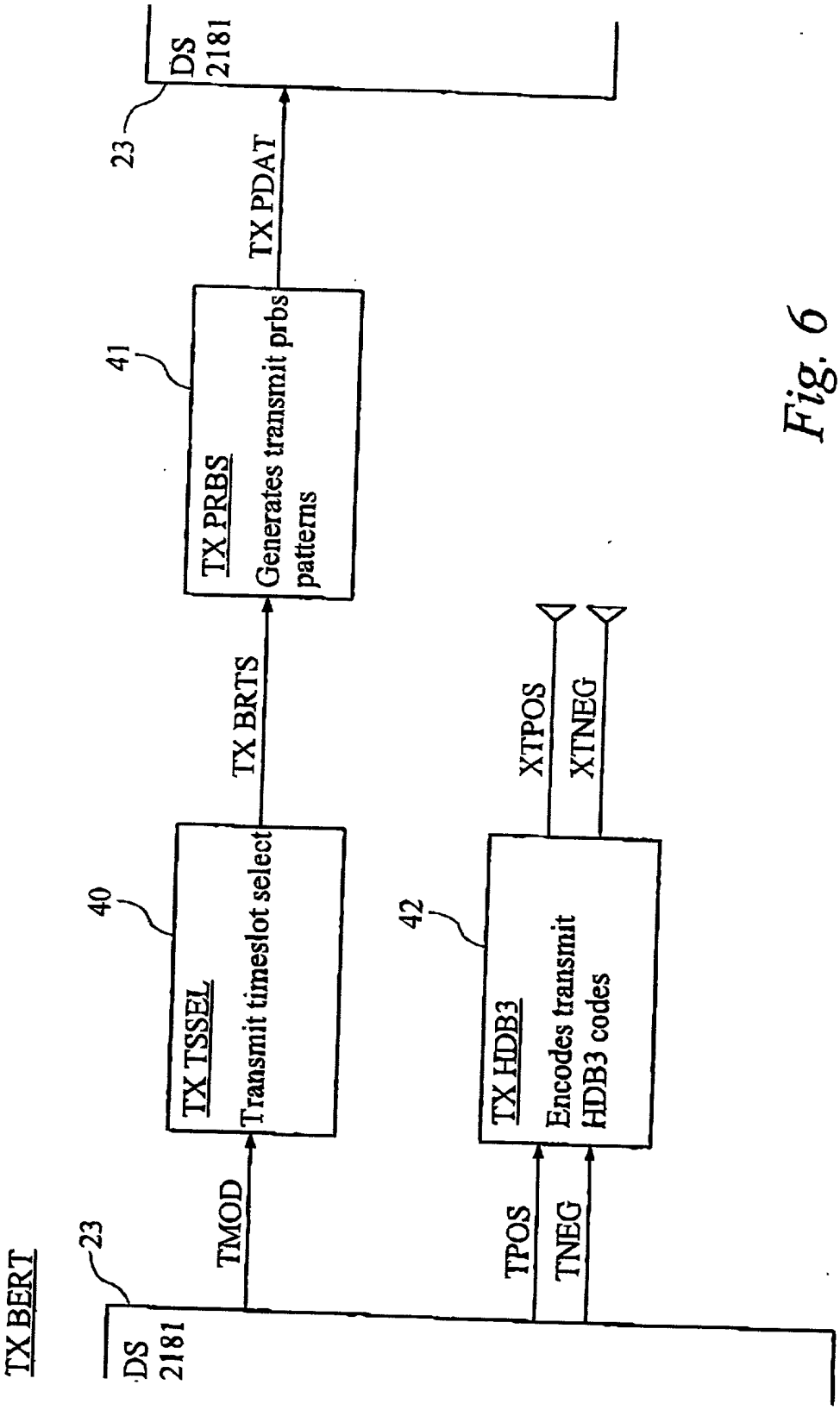
TX BERT
23
DS 2181
TMOD
TPOS
TNEG
40
TX TSSEL
Transmit timeslot select
42
TX HDB3
Encodes transmit HDB3 codes
TX BRTS
XTPOS
XTNEG
41
TX PRBS
Generates transmit prbs patterns
TX PDAT
23
DS 2181

Fig. 6

WO 99/57842

09/674444

PCT/GB99/01339

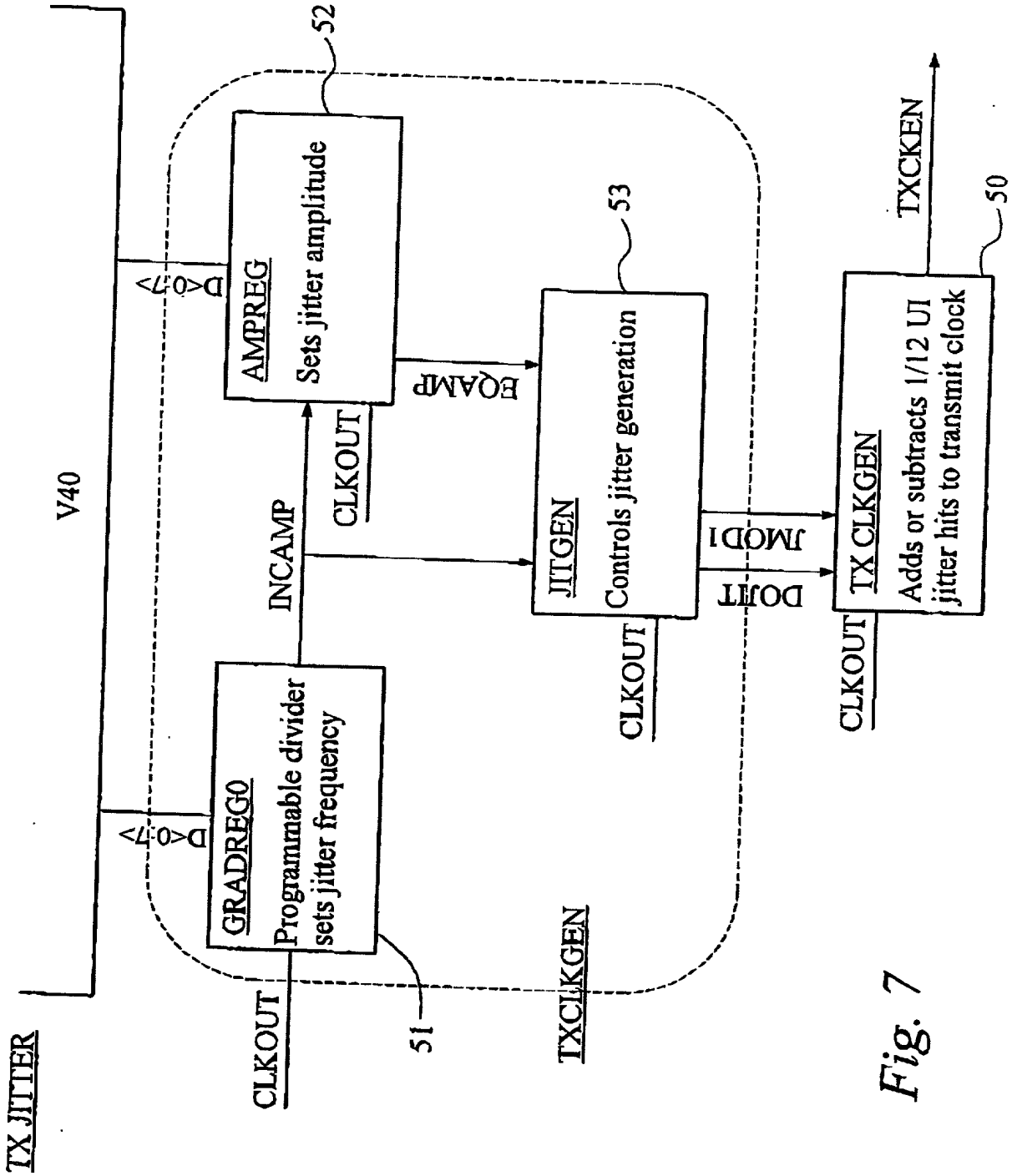

Fig. 7

#3

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Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application

English Language Declaration

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

the specification of which

(check one)

☐ is attached hereto:

☒ was filed on 24 April 1999 as United States Application No. or PCT International Application Number PCT/GB99/01339

and was amended on

(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(d) or Section 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or Section 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)			Priority Not Claimed
9809450.1	Great Britain	1 May 1998	
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	☐
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	☐
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	☐

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below::

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U. S. C. Section 120 of any United States application(s), or Section 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. Section 112. I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, C. F. R., Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that wilful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. *(list name and registration number)*

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Sole or first ivnentor's Date
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